WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A speech recognition apparatus for calculating a score indicating the likelihood of a speech recognition result of input speech and for performing continuous speech recognition on said speech based on the score, said speech recognition apparatus comprising:

extraction means for extracting features of said speech from said speech;

calculation means for calculating said score using said features on the basis of a dictionary in which unknown-word-forming elements, which are elements forming an unknown word, for classifying an unknown word by an attribute thereof and words for the object of speech recognition are entered; and

selection means for selecting a series of said words, which represents a speech recognition result, on the basis of said score.

2. A speech recognition apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein in said dictionary, the unknown-word-forming elements for classifying an unknown word by a part of speech thereof are entered.

3. A speech recognition apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein in said dictionary, suffixes are entered as said

unknown-word-forming elements.

4.   A speech recognition apparatus according to Claim 3,
wherein in said dictionary, phonemes which form an unknown
word are entered together with said suffixes.

5.   A speech recognition apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein in said dictionary, unknown-word-forming elements
for classifying an unknown word by a language thereof are
entered.

6.   A speech recognition apparatus according to Claim 1,
further comprising said dictionary.

7.   A speech recognition method for calculating a score
indicating the likelihood of a speech recognition result of
input speech and for performing continuous speech
recognition on said speech based on the score, said speech
recognition method comprising the steps of:
      extracting features of said speech from said speech;
      calculating said score using said features on the basis
of a dictionary in which unknown-word-forming elements,
which are elements forming an unknown word, for classifying
an unknown word by an attribute thereof and words for the
object of speech recognition are entered; and

selecting a series of said words, which represents a speech recognition result, on the basis of said score.

8.   A recording medium having a program recorded therein, said program comprising the steps of:

extracting features of said speech from said speech;

calculating said score using said features on the basis of a dictionary in which unknown-word-forming elements, which are elements forming an unknown word, for classifying an unknown word by an attribute thereof and words for the object of speech recognition are entered; and

selecting a series of said words, which represents a speech recognition result, on the basis of said score.